



DUTCH MOBILIZE AMID TENSION . . . The Netherlands government released these pictures this week while Nazi troop concentrations on her border prompted her to mobilize and declare she would fight to protect traditional Dutch neutrality. In lower view Dutch and German customs men chat at gate between Kerkade (Holland) and Strazs Germany. In top picture, a Dutch machine gun unit trains at an unidentified point. Allies fear Germany covets Dutch seacoast for air and naval bases closer to Britain.

Walteria Scores With Armistice Program

In five impressive tableaux, the true meaning of Armistice Day was presented in a beautiful and dignified manner last Friday night by the Walteria Civic Organization in the community hall. The observance was described as "the finest thing ever staged in Walteria" by many local residents. The hall was packed to capacity with many attending from Lomita, Torrance and other parts of the Harbor district.

Each scene was accompanied by a reading of an appropriate poem of that stage. The thought that went into the program reflects high credit on the sponsors and those who participated. Following the presentation of the colors, escorted to the stage by two ex-Navy men and an ex-soldier in uniform, Joel Hagberg, publicity chairman of the Civic Organization, opened the observance with a short talk about the World War of 1914-18. He detailed the cost of that conflict in lives, money and gave other information which proved the futility of war. The first tableau was then revealed. Here were soldiers and sailors with their wives and sweethearts awaiting the signal to board ship for France. The whistle sounding and the tearful leaving was graphically portrayed.

Speakers Between Scenes

Next came a scene in Gay Paree, depicting the lighter side of the war. This was quickly changed in theme and feeling as a glimpse into a Red Cross hospital followed. A wounded soldier was being treated while his one-armed and one-legged buddy offered him some measure of relief—a cigarette.

One of the most impressive of the presentations was the Gold Star Mother mourning at the vault of her soldier son while an armed sentry stood guard and "Taps" were sounded as from a distance. The final scene revealed a soldier and a sailor standing beside Uncle Sam while Peace stood guarded and two girls in white added to the beauty of this patriotic setting.

Between the tableaux, Hagberg introduced the speakers of the evening. These included Jim Wilkes, chaplain of Bert S. Crossland Post of Torrance, who briefly reviewed the objectives of the American Legion; Robert Lewellen, 19th district commander of the Sons of Legion, who outlined the program of that junior organization, and James Scott, Americanism chairman of the Torrance post, who gave a pointed talk on patriotism.

Efforts Win Praise
Much credit must be given to the Walterians who participated in the program. They were Mesdames Dorothy Ray, Bessie Slonecker, Betty Williams, Zelma Wagner, Eva Kelly, Florence Hagberg and Lyla Hansen; the Misses Dolores Huston, Shirley Crowther, Joyce Martinez and Elene Clisco, and Messrs. Paul Slonecker, Howard Pritchard, John Minor, James Louchbridge, Ed Hansen, Jean and Gene Anderson, Harry Cagle and J. W. Crowther.

Hagberg is credited as the director of the presentation, as (Continued on Page 4-A)

Highway Group to Ask State Road Grants

Determined to obtain state highway funds for the improvement of Hawthorne, La Brea avenues and Crenshaw boulevard thru this district, a committee of Southwest District Highways Association members met Monday night to arrange for proper presentation of their claims to the state highway commission.

That body will gather at the State building in Los Angeles Dec. 8 to hear applications for highway improvements. The Southwesterners intend to compile all necessary data regarding the local projects in order to prove their case before the commission. Those attending the committee meeting this week, which was held in Oscar L. Willett's office in Palos Verdes, were Leonard Young, Torrance city engineer; Leo Calkins and P. E. Mowery of Inglewood, Loren Howe of Hawthorne and Willetts.

Young, who is secretary of the association, said that the main organization will hold a dinner meeting Nov. 30 at Potrero Country Club in Inglewood to review the plans for a delegation's appearance before the state highway commission.

Red Cross Drive Begins With 40 in Local Field

Beginning Monday morning, 40 local residents started a sweeping canvass of the city in behalf of the American Red Cross annual Roll-Call. They are calling at every home, business place, factory and store to obtain membership in the great "helping hand" organization whose services are needed more now than at any time since 1918.

Headed by Lyle Doan, past commander of Bert S. Crossland Post, American Legion, the workers hope to top their quota of 450 memberships before the Roll Call ends on Nov. 30. Last year, Torrance residents took nearly 360 memberships. Donations of any amount from \$1 up will be gratefully received.

Mrs. Flora McDonald Wright, local Red Cross chairman, has offered Doan and his workers every assistance. In the past, the Roll Call campaign has largely depended on her splendid work but this year she welcomes the assistance being given by the American Legion Post and Auxiliary. Mrs. Wright said today that the canvassers have been equipped with proper credentials and no one asked for a membership by one of the workers need have any fear that the funds are not going directly to the Red Cross.

Doan is being assisted by the following aides who are in charge of various districts throughout the city: L. G. Barkdull, L. V. Babcock, Paul Findley, D. G. Goddard, W. W. Roland, Lou Deninger, Mrs. Gertrude Ralston, who has the business district with Mrs. Clarence Youngken, Mrs. Olive Lee and others.

The Walteria district is being canvassed by Mrs. W. K. Adolph, Scott Ludlow and Lloyd Warthan are getting memberships from National Supply Company workers. Members of the Mantle club, a national organization, who are assisting in the local drive are J. W. Robinson, A. F. Palmer and K. J. Nolan.

Traffic Count First Step Toward Stops on 101, Hawthorne

A traffic count is to be made at the intersection of Hawthorne avenue with Highway 101 to determine the necessity, long pointed out by Walteria residents, for boulevard stops on the state highway. Stops now are located on Hawthorne boulevard. The city council appropriated \$25 believed to be the state highway commission's fee for making a traffic count, Tuesday night. The count must be made before the state department of public works goes into the matter of approving the stop signs.

More than 840 Dairies in County

Between 840 and 850 dairies now are operating in Los Angeles County, distributing an average of 81,500 gallons of milk, cream and other fluid dairy products daily.

Stroh Resigns as Head of Police, Fire Departments

SAYS DUTIES TOO MUCH FOR ONE MAN

Stating that he has found the "multiple duties imposed upon me more exacting than one man can discharge with justice to himself or to his position," John Stroh offered his resignation as director of both the police and fire departments to the city council Tuesday night.

He has held that position for a year and four months, having been appointed in charge of the



JOHN STROH recommends fire chief

two departments July 1, 1938 and re-appointed Jan. 3, 1939 at a salary of \$225 per month. Stroh submitted his resignation with the understanding that he will continue to hold the rank of captain in the police department and stated that he would be "happy to act as chief of police if I do not lose my Civil Service rating."

Councilmen made no comment when the veteran officer's letter was read by City Clerk A. H. Bertlett. The resignation was referred to the council as a whole and the Civil Service Commission, thus it has not been formally accepted as yet.

Included in the letter was Stroh's recommendation that acting fire chief J. E. McMaster be appointed fire chief. When he took the position as public safety director, Stroh had an agreement with the council and Civil Service group that the promotion did not affect his rating as police captain. In taking over the dual duty as head of both police and fire departments, Stroh topped the former police chief, G. M. Calder in rank as Calder was demoted to captain and former fire chief A. B. Stoverson who was later discharged.

Stroh entered the police service here as a patrolman on Sept. 5, 1924. He was promoted to desk sergeant in January, 1925, to a full sergeant in May, 1926 and to captain December 1, 1934.

Building Permits Total \$7,000

Building permits issued from the city engineer's office during the past week totaled an even \$7,000, it was learned today. The construction jobs are as follows:

Pacific Perforating Company, a 22 by 50-foot frame galvanized iron machine shop at 1024 Engracia, \$700; Bank of America re-roofing bank building at 1330 Sartori, \$250; King and Dray, six-room frame stucco house and two-car garage at 1746 Manuel, \$4,100, and John Keefe, frame addition to home at 2259 Torrance boulevard, \$500.

Kiyoshi Murakawa, frame packing shed at 2404 Crenshaw boulevard, \$150; C. L. Beesley, frame stucco addition to a store building at 2517 Carson for living quarters, \$1,000; H. L. Harline, frame office building, 14 by 18, at 3850 42nd street, \$300, and General Petroleum Corporation, 16 by 24-foot centrifuge building at the refinery plant, \$200.

New City Directory Due by End of Year

It's coming! In fact, it's almost here! The new 1940 edition of Torrance's City Directory—the last word in compiled community information!

According to reports of canvassers and workers who have been working in and around Torrance every weekday from 8:30 in the morning to 4 o'clock in the afternoon for the past five weeks gathering accurate and last minute information for the directory, work should be completed by the end of November.

In that case, the book will be on the presses sometime early in December, and distribution to every dwelling in Torrance should be completed before the end of the year, according to Grover Inskip, manager-owner of the Western Directory Company.

IS FRIENDLIEST TOWN

"But this would have been absolutely impossible had it not been for the courtesy and helpfulness of Torrance residents," declares Mrs. O. H. Juckett, who

has been canvassing within the city limits.

"Torrance is one of the friendliest towns I've ever worked in," she said, "and I've canvassed quite a few in the past ten years that I've been associated with this work."

According to C. J. Sellman, rural route canvasser, work is progressing comparatively well in the outlying areas, and should be completed on schedule.

WILL REVEAL GROWTH
According to Mrs. Juckett and Sellman, not until the new directory is issued will local residents be able to comprehend the great influx into Torrance during the past ten years. "It's amazing!" they say.

ATHLETIC CLUB FOR BOYS DUE TO START HERE SOON

Sponsored by the Torrance Coordinating Council, an athletic program for youngsters is expected to get under way here in a modest way within the next few weeks. At the present time a search is being made for a suitable location where the various games, amateur boxing and wrestling matches and physical education drills that will soon occupy the attention of boys from six to 21 all but two or three nights of the week can be held under adult supervision.

When the project was presented to the city council at an after-meeting of the regular session Tuesday night, it met with unanimous approval and Mayor Tolson declared that the city would do everything it can toward establishment of the athletic center. City Engineer Leonard Young was instructed to investigate the old Legion building on Border, lately used as a Ku Klux Klavern, which is understood to be available at a nominal rental.

The athletic enterprise will be based on the same plan as that used successfully in Whittier. Councilman Tom McGuire and Police Chief John Stroh recently visited that city's project, which is supervised by the police department. They learned that it has reduced juvenile delinquency 55 percent in Whittier and is very popular with both boys and girls.

EQUIPMENT IS OFFERED

Lou Redman, National Supply worker who has had experience in directing youngsters' athletic groups, may be placed in charge of the local club if present plans are carried out. According to Charles Underwood, member of the Coordinating Council, the project should be started on a small scale to see what response the younger generation here gives to the idea.

He attended the informal meeting Tuesday with D. C. Turner, well-known shoe repairman who is interested in the project. Underwood pointed out that several business men of the city have already offered to donate equipment to the proposed athletic club.

Altho the old Legion hall can be purchased, it was reported, for about \$1,100, the officials are unwilling to enter into negotiations for its acquisition because, as Councilman George V. Powell, put it: "The city already has plenty of land at the municipal park for recreation (Continued on Page 4-A)"

KIWANIANS ELECT 1940 OFFICERS

Members of the Torrance Kiwanis club this week elected E. E. Murchison, manager of the Western Auto Supply store, to be president for 1940, succeeding Dean Sears. Other new officers chosen Monday night were: J. E. Scotton, first vice-president; Bill Rojo, second vice-



E. E. MURCHISON 15th Kiwanis prexy

president, and Ed Brunner was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

The 1940 board of directors will include Murchison, Scotton, Brunner and Sears and Ray Bekue, John E. McCall, William Nye, Dr. C. E. Easley, Dudley Polhemus, Leonard Young and George Moore, Jr. Installation will be held the first part of January.

EDITS BULLETIN

Murchison will be the 15th president of the service club. He opened the Western Auto store here in 1937 and has since become identified as one of the city's most progressive merchants. He served as a member of the Kiwanis directorate during the past year and was chairman of the Classification and Membership committee.

For the past six months, Murchison has been editing the club's weekly bulletin, The Torranceogram. Following the election, Kiwanians enjoyed an educational film, "Yankee Doodle Goes to Town," a panoramic pictorial summary of all the important developments in this nation. The film was shown by courtesy of the Union Oil Company and Harvel Guttenfelder.

C.C. Committees to Hold Dinner Meeting Friday

A group of 35 committee members, representing various activities of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce has been invited to a dinner meeting tomorrow (Friday) at Daniels Cafe.

At this meeting, R. R. Smith, chamber president, will outline the board's plan for widening the activities of the chamber. Directors of the chamber who head the various committees have drawn upon the membership in enlarging their committees, and the entire group will participate in formulating plans and offering suggestions for those projects which are most needed for the advancement of the community in general. President Smith explains.

D. A. TO SPEAK

Russell E. Parsons, deputy district attorney, will speak on "Crime Racketeering" at tonight's dinner-meeting of the Torrance Rotary club. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, Nov. 23, the club will not meet next week.

Experts to Check Fire Truck

For the third successive meeting the city council room was filled almost to capacity Tuesday night when the now famous Mack pump truck installed in the fire department Sept. 29 was again scheduled for a thorough debate.

This time the discussion was curtailed to only two speeches, the reading of one letter and a few minor comments. The letter, written by Councilman George V. Powell, was the prime reason for curtailment of oral fireworks such as marked two previous council sessions.

During the regular meeting, Powell introduced his letter, addressed to the board of supervisors, and its adoption appeared to please both the council and those who would scrap the Mack 1,000-gallon pumper. The supervisors are requested to send County Safety Engineer Hodge and Master Mechanic Powelson of the county fire department here to make a thorough appraisal of the city's purchase.

To End Dispute

Their report, if they come, may end the controversy that began with the council meeting of Oct. 10. Meanwhile, the city officials in the absence of Councilman James Hitchcock are not taking any action on demands made by several citizens Oct. 24 that the truck be returned to its makers.

Powell introduced his letter with the statement that he hoped the appraisal by the county's experts would "fairly and impartially settle, once and for all, the dispute about the merits of the fire truck." The council approved sending the letter to B. M. Prewett, one of the leaders in the move to get rid of the truck because, among other reasons, it was manufactured in 1932, informed the council that the replies received from Theo. Hobgood, manager of the Los Angeles factory branch of the Mack Truck Company to his 14 questions were not entirely "clear or consistent on many points."

Isen Is Happy

Nevertheless, Prewett declared he appreciated the action of the council in having the truck appraised by experts, to which Mayor William H. Tolson replied:

"We've gone thru this matter so much that unless someone has something entirely new to bring up about the truck I think we can stand by the record of what's been said before. Now we're agreeing with you to have experts appraise the truck. If they say it's alright we don't care whether it is a demonstration or a show truck or what it is."

Attorney Albert Isen, who launched the controversy, five weeks ago, said he was "happy over the decision to obtain an independent appraisal" but he pointed out that he wanted the inspection by the county experts to "be conducted fairly." They should not be told what the city paid for the machine and he asked that either he or Prewett or both be present, as a sort of a citizen's vigilance committee, when the appraising is done.

Similar Statements

But Isen declared that "even if the appraisal is high, we don't want the city to keep that truck," contending that Torrance should (Continued on Page 5-A)

The Chinese Know—

In China they pay to keep well—Here we wait until we are sick before we do anything about our bodies. Let's get on to ourselves! The advertiser, whose partial ad is reproduced herewith, will keep your body toned up—or, if you've slipped a bit, he'll work to eliminate poisons and stimulate circulation in a pleasant and relaxing manner. See his ad under class.

Health Aids —32

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Boys Wanted Here for Auto Thefts are Freed by Oklahoma Authorities Before Order Arrives

Oklahoma peace officers have a reputation of being quick on the trigger.

They also are quick to release prisoners, Police Chief John Stroh learned late last week.

As result of the Oklahoma officers' speed, one local youth and two Redondo Beach boys wanted here for the theft of two cars, are again at large. They were released by Bristol, Oklahoma authorities several hours before Chief Stroh's

telegram arrived there advising that extradition proceedings were being followed to return them here for trials. Stroh had requested that the boys be held.

Then he learned that the boys, J. Skidmore, who used the name of DePorte Rampley here, 16; William Franklin and Frank L. Stone, both 19 and of Redondo Beach, had been released from the Bristol jail and the car in which they were riding, owned by Mrs. Anstis

M. Albertson of this city, had been returned to them.

Stroh is unable to understand why the Oklahoma officers were so hasty in releasing the boys, especially after it was known they were wanted in Torrance.

The boys are also wanted for questioning in regard to the theft of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Brown's car from beside their home at 1738 Cabrillo avenue on Oct. 29. This machine was later found in Redondo Beach.